addressing a host of HRD related issues with regard to bank officials posted at rural branches.

The committee's recommendations relating to most of the procedural modifications have been implemented by banks and it is expected that the procedural improvements will lead to a substantial reduction in paper work and simplify the delivery mechanism for flow of credit to farmers.

Summons to the Chairman, United Breweries Group for FERA Violation

506. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "ED Summons Vijay Mallya" appearing in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi on the 27th January, 2000;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Enforcement Directorate issues summons thrice to the Chairman, United Breweries Group for alleged violation of FERA involving crores of rupees;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and whether it is a fact that Shri Vijay Mallya had avoided appearance before E.D. thrice on one excuse or the other; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Shri Vijay Mallya was summoned under section 40 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 for his appearance on 27.9.1999, 8.11.1999, 26.11.1999 and 3.1.2000. But he did not appear on any of these days. Action as provided under section 56 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act is contemplated for non-compliance of summons.